

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

INDECK KEYSTONE ENERGY, LLC, a  
Delaware limited liability company,

Plaintiff

v.

VICTORY ENERGY OPERATIONS, LLC, a  
Delaware limited liability company,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION

No. 04-CV-325E

Judge Sean J. McLaughlin

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**DEFENDANT/COUNTER-PLAINTIFF VICTORY ENERGY OPERATIONS'**  
**SECOND AMENDED COUNTERCLAIM**

Defendant, Victory Energy Operations, LLC, ("VEO") by and through its attorneys Christopher T. Sheean of Wildman Harrold Allen & Dixon LLP, and G. Jay Habas of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner Coleman & Goggin, for its Second Amended Counterclaim against Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC's ("IKE") states as follows:

**AMENDED COUNTERCLAIM**

Defendant/Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC ("VEO"), for its Second Amended Counterclaim against Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant Indeck Keystone Energy LLC ("IKE"), states as follows:

**Parties**

1. VEO is a Delaware Limited Liability Corporation with its principal place of business at 10701 East 126th Street, North Collinsville, Oklahoma 74021.
2. IKE is a Delaware limited liability company with an office and principal place of business located at 5300 Knowledge Parkway, Suite 200, Erie, Pennsylvania 16510-4660.

**The License Agreement**

3. On or about January 7, 2003, VEO and Erie Power Technologies, Inc. (“EPTI”) entered into a contract to license to VEO the right to use certain software and related trademarks to enable VEO to manufacture, market and sell boilers in North America (the “License Agreement”). (A copy of the License Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit A).

4. Specifically, the License Agreement provides:

Licensors hereby grants to Licensee:

(i) The exclusive license to manufacture the Products and to offer, sell, and install the Products so manufactured, and to use Technical Information in connection therewith, within the Exclusive Territory. Licensee understands and agrees, however that Licensor reserves the right to itself to offer, sell, manufacture, and install the Products in the Exclusive Territory in the following cases:

1. if explicitly requested by the client(s), or
2. Licensee’s capabilities to meet the requirements by any client are significantly diminished as determined by mutual agreement of the parties.

In these cases, the Parties will also agree on the best practical cooperation and support to be provided by Licensee and Licensee’s most reasonable offer/order share

(License Agreement, Ex. A, at ¶ 2a).

5. The License Agreement defines “Products” as “natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators with a steam capacity range beginning at 29,000 pph up to and including 150,000 pph. Products shall include but not be limited to the items set forth in Annex. 1. If Licensee receives inquiries which are not in Licensor’s range of Products, subject to and prior notice to Licensor, Licensee will be free to enter into separate alternative agreements.” (License Agreement, Ex. A, at ¶ 1a).

6. Moreover, pursuant to the terms of the License Agreement, “Exclusive Territory” means United States, Canada and Mexico. (License Agreement, Ex. A, at ¶1d).

7. Under the requirements of the License Agreement, EPTI provided to VEO a set of software programs and related drawings and information, defined in the License Agreement as "Technical Information."

8. The License Agreement also grants VEO the right to use EPTI's marks in conjunction with the manufacturing, marketing and sales of the Products. Accordingly, the License Agreement provides:

Trademarks

15.a) Grant of License. For the duration of this Agreement, Licensee shall be permitted to use the Mark royalty-free on the Products manufactured by Licensee. The Mark shall be affixed to a plate appearing on each Product supplied by Licensee upon which there shall be an indication that the Products were supplied by Licensee under license from Licensor. For the duration of this Agreement, Licensee also shall be permitted to use the Mark in marketing, advertising, and sales activities related to the Product manufactured by Licensee

9. The License Agreement grants VEO the limited right to use the trademark KEYSTONE® in connection with the manufacture, marketing and sales of the Products.

**COUNT I**

**(Declaratory Judgment)**

10. Pursuant to the terms of the License Agreement, VEO has manufactured, marketed and sold natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators with a steam capacity range beginning at 29,000 pph up to and including 150,000 pph, under the trademark KEYSTONE® since January 7, 2003.

11. VEO has never manufactured or sold any products under the trademark KEYSTONE® or any other mark owned by EPTI or its successors-in-interest, other than pursuant to a license granted by EPTI.

12. Moreover, VEO has never manufactured or sold any products using the Technical Information, other than pursuant to a license granted by EPTI.

13. There is an actual controversy between the parties as to whether VEO has sold any products using the intellectual property and/or trade secrets of EPTI or IKE outside the rights granted under the License Agreement, and this Court may enter a declaratory judgment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.

## **COUNT II**

### **(Breach of Contract)**

14. VEO incorporates by reference and realleges the preceding paragraphs of this Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein

15. Pursuant to the License Agreement, EPTI granted to VEO “an **exclusive license** to manufacture the Products and to offer, sell, and install the Products so manufactured, and to use Technical Information in connection therewith, within the Exclusive Territory.” (License Agreement, Ex. A, at ¶2a).

16. IKE has represented to VEO that, effective September 8, 2004, it is the Licensor under the License Agreement.

17. As the successor-in-interest to EPTI’s rights and obligations under the License Agreement, IKE is bound by the terms of the License Agreement.

18. Among its rights and obligations, IKE is precluded, except in two narrow exceptions, from manufacturing, marketing or selling in North America, any natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators with a steam capacity range beginning at 29,000 pph up to and including 150,000 pph until the expiration of the License Agreement. (License Agreement, Ex. A, at ¶ 2a).

19. On information and belief, IKE, directly and through its predecessors-in-interest, has marketed and attempted to sell items that fall within the definition of “Products” under the License Agreement that VEO was granted an exclusive license to manufacture, market and sell.

20. IKE’s attempts to market and sell Products is in direct violation of the License Agreement, has damaged VEO’s reputation, and has caused damage to VEO.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.

### **COUNT III**

(Intentional Interference With Contractual Relations)

21. VEO incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1-19 of this Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein.

22. VEO and IKE are competitors in the design, manufacturing and sale of steam generating equipment, including industrial boilers.

23. In July 2003, VEO and Christian Power Equipment (“CPE”), located in Walnut Creek, California, entered into an agreement for CPE to provide sales representation to VEO for certain steam generating equipment and related services (the “CPE Agreement”). A true and correct copy of the CPE Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

24. Under the terms of the CPE Agreement, CPE, among other things, solicited orders and provided limited support services to customers on behalf of VEO within a defined territory.

25. The CPE Agreement defined “Territory” to include counties North of San Luis Obispo, Fresno, and Inyo in California, and the entire states of Alaska, Idaho, Nevada,

Oregon, and Washington. CPE Agreement ¶ 1. CPE was a unique representative of VEO with extensive experience within the various industrial boiler markets in the Territory. CPE's longstanding relationships with the customers within such markets provided a competitive advantage to VEO.

26. VEO and CPE had been performing under the Representative Agreement since its execution in July 2003.

27. On information and belief, IKE was aware of the CPE Agreement between VEO and CPE.

28. On information and belief, CPE also represented IKE in the sale of after market parts related to steam generating equipment, for which CPE received commissions for such sales.

29. In January 2005, IKE, through its agents, stated to Alan Christian, the owner of CPE, that if CPE did not cancel the Representative Agreement, IKE would terminate CPE's representation of IKE in the sale of after market parts relating to steam generating equipment, which was worth \$100,000 annually to CPE.

30. As a result of IKE's statements to Alan Christian, CPE notified VEO of its intent to terminate the Representative Agreement on March 9, 2005, based on its fear that IKE would cease to do business with CPE.

31. IKE's conduct was intentional and designed to interfere with VEO's Representative Agreement with CPE and ultimately caused VEO to lose the ability to market its steam generating equipment and related services in the Territory.

32. As a direct and proximate result of IKE's conduct, VEO has lost the ability to market or sell steam generating equipment and related services within the Territory, and has suffered damages through loss of profits and loss of market share.

33. In March 2003, VEO entered into a similar Representative Agreement with Power Systems, Inc. of Farmington Hills, Michigan, (the "PSI Agreement") pursuant to which Power Systems provided sales representation to VEO for certain steam generating equipment and related services in the state of Michigan. A true and correct copy of the PSI Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

34. Under the terms of the PSI Agreement, PSI, among other things, solicited orders and provided limited support services to customers on behalf of VEO within the defined territory of Michigan.

35. VEO and PSI had been performing under the PSI Representative Agreement since its execution in March 2003.

36. On information and belief, IKE was aware of the Representative Agreement between VEO and PSI.

37. On information and belief, PSI also represented IKE in the sale of after market parts related to steam generating equipment, for which PSI received commissions for such sales.

38. In February 2005, IKE, through its agents, stated to Ed Eidt, President of PSI, that if PSI did not cancel the Representative Agreement, IKE would terminate PSI's representation of IKE in the sale of after market parts relating to steam generating equipment.

39. As a result of IKE's statements to Ed Eidt, Mr. Eidt notified VEO on February 25, 2005, of its intent to terminate the Representative Agreement, based on its fear that IKE would cease to do business with PSI.

40. IKE's conduct was intentional and designed to interfere with VEO's Representative Agreement with PSI and ultimately caused VEO to lose the ability to market its steam generating equipment and related services in the Territory.

41. As a direct and proximate result of IKE's conduct, VEO has lost the ability to market or sell steam generating equipment and related services within the Territory, and has suffered damages through loss of profits and loss of market share.

42. VEO has a similar representative agreement with Thermal & Hydraulic Equipment in Toronto, Canada ("THE"), pursuant to which THE, among other things, solicits orders and provides limited support services to customers on behalf of VEO within a defined territory.

43. On information and belief, IKE is aware of the existence of a contractual relationship between VEO and THE.

44. On or about February 1, 2005, Chris Petcos of IKE contacted Ian Milligan at THE and pressured Milligan to drop VEO as a supplier or lose the rights and abilities to sell Indeck after market parts of any kind. Milligan refused to succumb. Petcos then said in substance, "Indeck is in a lawsuit with Victory right now that Indeck is going to win. When it is over, Victory will not be able to sell boilers at all."

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.



**COUNT IV**

(Violation of California Business & Professional Code § 17200 *et seq.*)

45. VEO incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1-19 and 23-32 of this Amended Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein

46. VEO and IKE are “persons” as defined under California Bus & Prof. Code § 17201.

47. IKE’s conduct in inducing CPE’s termination of the Representative Agreement constitutes an unlawful business practice under California Business & Profession Code § 17200.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.

**COUNT V**

(Intentional Interference With Prospective Economic Advantage)

48. VEO incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1-24 of this Amended Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein.

49. On May 17, 2004, VEO and EPTI entered into an agreement titled an “Agreement on Cooperation for Project Outside of License Agreement” (“Variance Agreement”) to grant VEO a variance to the scope definition of the EPTI/VEO license agreement, dated December 31, 2003. The Variance Agreement allowed VEO to sell an O type boiler under the Keystone name to the University of Notre Dame, located in South Bend, Indiana.

50. After the Variance Agreement was signed, VEO submitted a bid to the University of Notre Dame for the sale of an O type boiler. By October 2004, VEO became one of two suppliers who were under final consideration by the University of Notre Dame for the

award of a contract to build an O type boiler ("Notre Dame Contract"). The Notre Dame Contract represented a lucrative opportunity for VEO.

51. VEO was reasonably likely to be awarded the Notre Dame Contract because of the success and reputation of the Keystone boiler. VEO's lone competitor had significantly less experience and offered a product with an inferior history and service record.

52. IKE was aware that VEO had submitted a bid to the University of Notre Dame to build an O type boiler.

53. On information and belief, IKE was aware of the Variance Agreement between VEO and EPTI, which specifically gave VEO the right to sell an O type boiler to the University of Notre Dame.

54. On information and belief, in October 2004, IKE knowingly made statements to a University of Notre Dame official in order to prevent VEO from being awarded the Notre Dame Contract. Specifically, IKE, through one of its representatives, Jeff Coale, stated to Paul Kempf, the Director of Utilities at the University of Notre Dame, that VEO lacked authority to sell an O type boiler to the University of Notre Dame. Mr. Coale also stated to Mr. Kempf that VEO lacked the engineering capability to complete the Notre Dame contract.

55. Mr. Coale's statements to Mr. Kempf were false, and were known to be false by IKE and Mr. Coale at the time they were made.

56. As a result of IKE's statements to Mr. Kempf, shortly thereafter, VEO was eliminated from further consideration, and the Notre Dame Contract was awarded to the other company under final consideration by the University of Notre Dame.

57. IKE's conduct was intentional and designed to prevent the University of Notre Dame from awarding the Notre Dame Contract to VEO. IKE's conduct was unjustified

because IKE was not under consideration to be awarded the Notre Dame contract and had no direct pecuniary interest in the outcome of the Notre Dame Contract. IKE's conduct was motivated to deprive VEO of potential new business and ultimately to eliminate VEO as a competitor in the design, manufacturing and sale of steam generating equipment, including industrial boilers.

58. As a result of IKE's wrongful conduct, VEO lost the opportunity to enter into the Notre Dame Contract and the profits that would have been generated thereunder.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.

**COUNT VI**

(Defamation)

59. VEO incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1-19 and 49-58 of this Amended Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein.

60. Mr. Coale's statements to Mr. Kempf were defamatory *per se* in that they assailed VEO's business methods by falsely asserting that VEO did not have the engineering capabilities to complete a job within the scope of the Notre Dame Contract.

61. As a result of IKE's conduct VEO has also suffered damage to its business reputation.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC.

**COUNT VII**

(Declaratory Judgment)

62. VEO incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1-10 of this Second Amended Counterclaim, as though the same were set forth fully herein.

63. In Clause 16(b) of the License Agreement, it provides that “after the expiration of the initial three (3) year term, this Agreement will be continued from year to year, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement unless notice is given in writing by one party to the other at least sixty (60) days before the expiration of the original or extended period that the notifying party does not intend to renew or extend this Agreement.” (License Agreement, Ex. A, at Clause 16(b)).

64. On October 28, 2005, IKE notified VEO for the first time of its intention not to renew the License Agreement.

65. In its notice of non-renewal, IKE stated that “VEO must comply with all of its obligations after termination described in Clause 17 and elsewhere in the Agreement. In particular, Licensee shall no longer have the right to manufacture the Products, to use the Technical Information supplied to Licensee by Licensor under this Agreement, or to use the Mark.” (License Agreement, Ex. A, at Clause 17).

66. In fact, section 17(a) states “after any termination of this Agreement by Licensor in accordance with the provisions of Clause 16(c) hereof, Licensee shall no longer have the right to manufacture the Products, to use the Technical Information supplied to Licensee by Licensor under this Agreement . . . or to use the Mark.”

67. IKE did not effectuate a termination of the License Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Clause 16(c). Clause 16(c) reads “in the event Licensee has

not received during the first two (2) years a minimum of 5 orders for the Products, Licensor has the right to terminate the Agreement.” IKE clearly effectuated a non-renewal under the terms of Clause 16(b).

68. Following the expiration of the License Agreement, VEO is entitled to compete fairly and openly with Indeck Keystone Energy by designing, manufacturing, marketing and selling natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators utilizing technology obtained from the public domain, or developed by VEO employees and independent contractors.

69. Given the language in IKE’s letter of non-renewal, VEO has a legitimate concern that as of January 8, 2006, IKE will attempt to foreclose VEO from manufacturing, marketing and selling natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators utilizing technology obtained from the public domain, or developed by VEO employees and independent contractors.

70. There is an actual controversy between the parties as to whether the License Agreement precludes VEO from manufacturing natural circulation, industrial watertube package steam generators utilizing technology obtained from the public domain, or developed by VEO employees and independent contractors, and this Court may enter a declaratory judgment pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201.

**WHEREFORE**, Counter-Plaintiff Victory Energy Operations, LLC respectfully demands judgment in its favor and against Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC, and more specifically demands the following relief:

- (a) Declaring that VEO’s sales of boilers using the KEYSTONE ® trademark were authorized pursuant to the License Agreement;
- (b) Declaring that following the expiration of the License Agreement, VEO is entitled to manufacture, market and sell natural circulation, industrial watertube package

steam generators utilizing technology obtained from the public domain, or developed by VEO employees and independent contractors.

- (c) Preliminarily and permanently enjoining IKE from further acts in violation of the License Agreement, including, without limitation, ordering IKE to cease all efforts to market or sell the Licensed Boilers until expiration or termination of the License Agreement;
- (d) Preliminarily and permanently enjoining IKE from inducing any of VEO's sales representatives to terminate their representation of VEO;
- (e) Preliminarily and permanently enjoining IKE from making any statement to any actual or potential VEO customer regarding VEO's authority to build any steam generated equipment or VEO's capabilities or ability to build such equipment;
- (f) Ordering an accounting of all sales and profits which IKE has realized or will hereafter realize as a result of marketing for sale or selling the Licensed Boilers during the License Period.
- (g) Awarding VEO its actual damages in an amount to be proven at trial, including, but not limited to actual damages and lost sales suffered by VEO as a result of IKE's misconduct, as well as any profits of IKE that are attributable to the above-described misconduct and not otherwise taken into account in computing the aforementioned actual damages, plus interest;
- (h) Awarding VEO any additional amounts IKE received as an unjust enrichment for its unlawful acts;
- (i) Awarding VEO its attorneys' fees, expenses and costs of suit incurred in this action; and
- (j) Awarding VEO such other and further relief as the Court deems just, equitable and appropriate under the facts and circumstances of this matter.

Dated: November 4, 2005

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Respectfully Submitted,

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